

What is claimed is:

1. An absorbent article comprising:
 - A. a silhouette comprising
 - i. a first transverse edge,
 - ii. a second transverse edge, wherein the second transverse edge is in opposite relation to the first transverse edge, and
 - iii. a pair of opposed longitudinally-extending edges connecting the first transverse edge and the second transverse edge, and
 - B. a layered structure comprising
 - i. a body-faceable, liquid-permeable cover layer;
 - ii. a substantially transparent separating layer;
 - iii. a substantially transparent, liquid-absorbing coating spaced apart from the substantially transparent, liquid-permeable cover layer by the substantially transparent separating layer.
2. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent separating layer comprises a transfer layer.
3. An absorbent article of claim 1 further comprising a garment-faceable, liquid-impermeable barrier layer.
4. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent separating layer is cellulose-free.
5. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the separating layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of an apertured plastic film, a non-woven material, a polymeric foam material, and combinations thereof.

6. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the separating layer has a thickness in a range from about 0.5 mm (millimeters) to about 3 mm.
7. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the separating layer has a basis weight in a range from about 5 grams per square meter (gsm) to about 200 gsm.
8. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent, liquid-absorbing coating is formed on a surface of the separating layer.
9. An absorbent article of claim 3 wherein the substantially transparent, liquid-absorbing coating is formed on a body-facing surface of the liquid-impermeable barrier layer.
10. An absorbent article of claim 3 wherein a layer selected from the group consisting of the liquid-permeable cover layer, the substantially transparent liquid-absorbing coating, the substantially transparent, liquid-impermeable barrier layer, the one or more substantially transparent separating layers, and combinations thereof is free of colorants.
11. An absorbent article of claim 10 wherein each of the liquid-permeable cover layer, the substantially transparent liquid-absorbing coating, the liquid-impermeable barrier layer, the one or more substantially transparent separating layers are free of colorants.
12. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent liquid-absorbing coating comprises a plurality of liquid absorbing particles.
13. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the substantially transparent liquid-absorbing coating comprises a mixture of a hot melt adhesive and a liquid-absorbing polymer.

14. An absorbent article of claim 12, wherein the liquid-absorbing particles comprise a superabsorbent polymer.
15. An absorbent article of claim 12, wherein the liquid-absorbing particles have an average diameter of less than about 150 microns.
16. An absorbent article of claim 12 wherein the substantially transparent liquid-absorbing coating comprises liquid-absorbing polymer particles having an average diameter of from about 10 microns to about 75 microns.
17. An absorbent article of claim 12, wherein the matrix comprises a block copolymer and a tackifying resin.
18. An absorbent article of claim 17, wherein the block copolymer comprises a block selected from the group consisting of conjugated diene elastomers, hydrogenated elastomers, and combinations thereof.
19. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the transparent, liquid-absorbing coating has a basis weight greater than about 20 gsm.
20. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the transparent, liquid-absorbing coating is substantially free of fibrous material.
21. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the article has a light transmittance of greater than about 45%.
22. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the separating layer comprises a fibrous material having a denier in a range from about 1.5 denier per fiber (dpf) to about 15 dpf.

23. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the transparent, liquid-absorbing coating extends from the first longitudinally-extending edge of the article and the second longitudinally-extending edge of the article.
24. An absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the body-faceable, liquid-permeable cover layer is substantially transparent.
25. An absorbent article of claim 3 wherein the garment-faceable, liquid-impermeable barrier layer is substantially transparent.
26. An absorbent article of claim 11 wherein the garment-faceable, liquid-impermeable barrier layer is substantially transparent.
27. An absorbent article comprising:
 - A. a silhouette comprising
 - i. a first transverse edge,
 - ii. a second transverse edge, wherein the second transverse edge is in opposite relation to the first transverse edge,
 - iii. a pair of opposed longitudinally-extending edges connecting the first transverse edge and the second transverse edge; and
 - B. a layered structure comprising
 - i. a substantially transparent, body-faceable, liquid-permeable cover layer; and
 - ii. a substantially transparent, liquid-absorbing coating spaced apart from the substantially transparent cover layer by a substantially transparent separating layer, wherein the substantially transparent, liquid-absorbing coating comprises a superabsorbent polymer dispersed in a matrix, and wherein the matrix comprises a thermoplastic hot melt-adhesive.

28. A method of forming a substantially transparent absorbent article, wherein the method comprises:

providing a substrate consisting of a liquid-impermeable barrier layer or a separating layer;

applying a coating composition to the substrate to form a substantially transparent, liquid absorbing coating thereon; and

positioning the substantially transparent, liquid absorbing coating such that the substantially transparent, liquid absorbing coating is spaced apart from the liquid-permeable cover layer by the separating layer.

29. A method of claim 28 further comprising heating the coating composition from a non-flowable ambient state to a temperature sufficient to render the composition flowable.

30. A method of claim 28 wherein the coating composition comprises liquid absorbing polymer particles.